



THE FOREIGNER'S GOING TO GET HELP FROM...

the SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

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BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY



...EVEN IF IT KILLS
THEM BOTH!

DIRECT EDITION

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BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT PETER PARKER GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

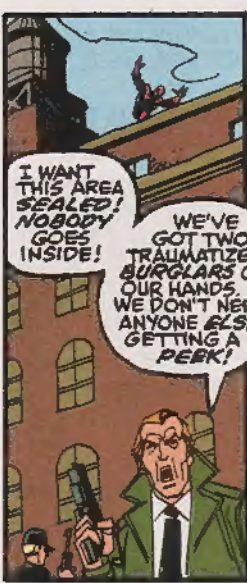
STAN LEE PRESENTS: **THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN**



FOREIGN OBJECTS

GRANT & BUSCEMA story and art / ROSEN letters / SHAREN colors / POWERS cowboy / FINGEROTH group editor / DEFALCO chief

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I WANT THIS AREA SEALED! NOBODY GOES INSIDE!

WE'VE GOT TWO TRAUMATIZED BURGLARS ON OUR HANDS. WE DON'T NEED ANYONE ELSE GETTING A PEEK!



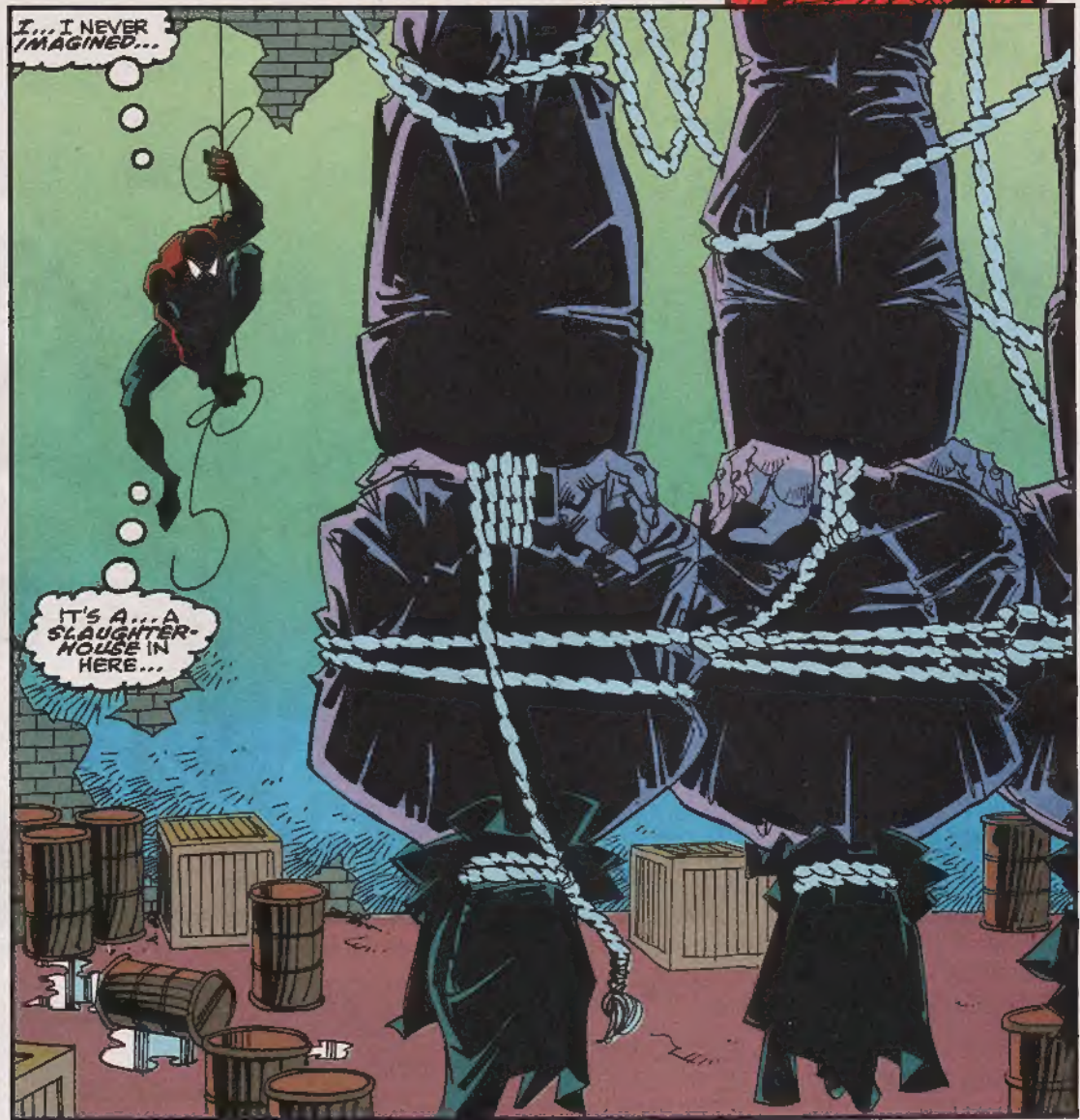
SORRY I CAN'T OBLIGE YOU, CAPTAIN--

--BUT WHEN THIS MRS. PARKER'S SON ACCEPTS A NEWS PHOTO ASSIGNMENT--



--HE ALWAYS GETS HIS--

URRRRK!



I... I NEVER IMAGINED...

IT'S A... A SLAUGHTERHOUSE IN HERE...

AND ALL THEIR FACES COVERED BY... LOOKS LIKE A... FLAG?

SOME SORT OF MESSAGE? TERRORISTS MAYBE? IT'S NOT LIKE ANY FLAG I'VE EVER SEEN.

I THINK I'M GOING TO BE SICK!

STEEL YOURSELVES, BOYS.

SOME OF YOU MIGHT HAVE SEEN WORSE THAN THIS--

UH-OH.

-- BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE THESE SIGHTS EASIER TO TAKE.

YOU HAVE TO TALK ABOUT THIS, SEE THE FORCE SHRINK-- OR SAVE IT FOR COURT, AFTER WE GET THE PERP.

I DON'T WANT YOU DISCUSSING IT WITH ANYONE ELSE-- EVER!

GOT TO AGREE WITH YOU, CAPTAIN.

ROBBIE ROBERTSON'S JUST GOING TO RUN THIS STORY IN THE DAILY BUGLE WITHOUT PHOTOS.

WHAT KIND OF TWISTED, MURDEROUS THUG WOULD DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT--?!

SPIDER-MAN
TINGLING--
TROUBLE!

BUT WHERE?
NOW I'M NOT
REGISTERING
ANYTHING.

IF THERE WAS DANGER,
IT PASSED. WHAT'S
GOING ON HERE?

SPIDER-MAN,
NOT THE ENEMY
I EXPECTED
TO FIND MY
STOREHOUSE.

DEAD IN MY
SIGHTS...
ONE SHOT...

STILL, ONE
DOES NOT
WASTE ONE'S
RESOURCES--

SUBJECT
LOCKED
IN?

AFFIRMATIVE.

--AND WITH MY
RESOURCES
WANING--

--HIS
UNPREDICTABILITY
IS SOMETHING I
CAN USE--

ALL THE
TROUBLE
HE'S CAUSED
ME WOULD
HAVE BEEN
OVER FOR
GOOD...

THOOOM!

STUPID. SHOULD HAVE BEEN WATCHING MY BACK--

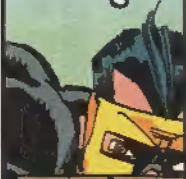
NOW I HAVE ONLY SECONDS--

SEE?! DIDN'T I TELL YOU?!

STAY IN HIDING, I SAID! WATCH THE WAREHOUSE! HE'LL SHOW HIMSELF!

HOW SHREWD YOU ARE. WE BOW TO YOUR WISDOM.

NOW SHUT UP AND HELP US **KILL** HIM!



-- INSTEAD OF SPIDER-MAN.

-- BEFORE THEY CATCH UP TO ME--



**PULSE!
SILENCE!
SWIFT-1!**

SO, PULSE, YOUR NEW MASTER GAVE YOU BRAINS!

DID HE GIVE YOU A HEART AND COURAGE AS WELL?!

DID YOU THINK I'D SIT STILL AND BE YOUR TARGET?

NOT AT ALL!

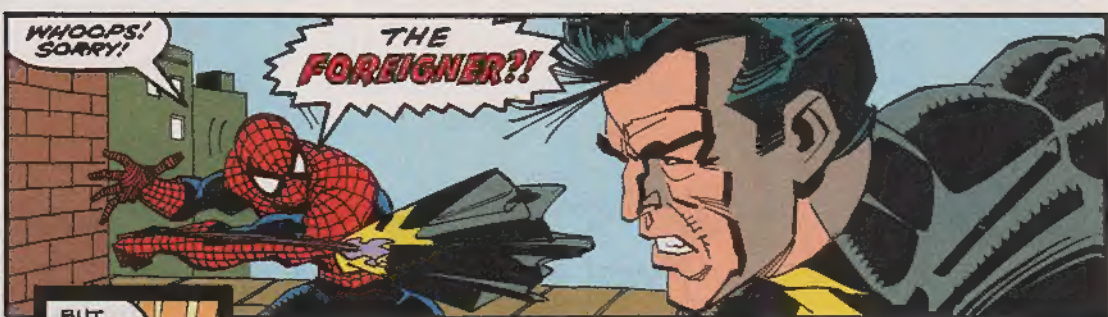
STILL YOU'RE BEING A BIT PRESUMPTUOUS--

SILENCE!











DON'T TROUBLE
YOURSELF WITH
EXCUSES.

WHO--?! YOU? HOW DID
YOU FIND ME?

FINDING PEOPLE
IS WHAT I DO.

ONE OF THE
THINGS I DO.

SPIDER-MAN,
YES, I
HEARD.

YOU WERE
CREATED
TO HANDLE
ANYTHING,
SWIFT-1.

THE
MASTER
CAN'T BLAME
ME FOR THIS!
IT WAS--

YOU
FAILED.

NO! I CAN'T
BE REMOVED!
NOT LIKE THIS!

YOU
CAN'T!

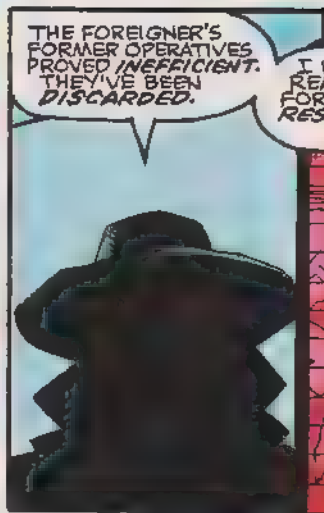
I CAN. I HAVE.

MAY YOU
BE SWIFTER
IN THE NEXT
LIFE THAN
YOU WERE IN
THIS ONE.



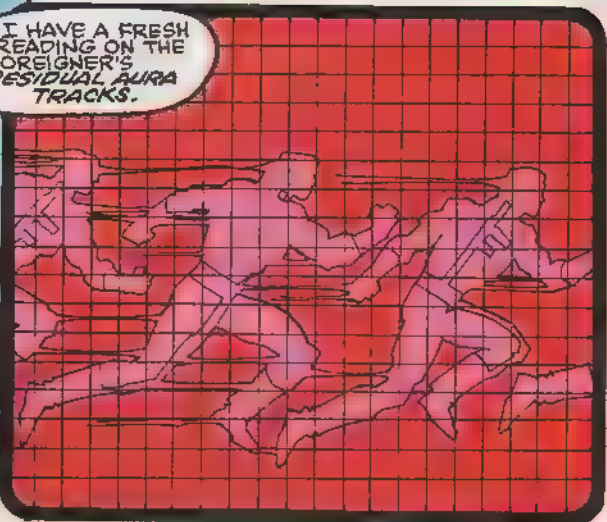
MASTER?
DO YOU
COPY?

REPORT.



THE FOREIGNER'S
FORMER OPERATIVES
PROVED *INEFFICIENT*.
THEY'VE BEEN
DISCARDED.

I HAVE A FRESH
READING ON THE
FOREIGNER'S
RESIDUAL AURA
TRACKS.

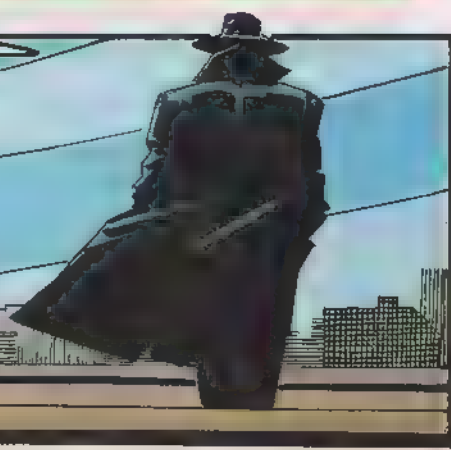


REMEMBER
ALL THE FACETS
OF YOUR
ASSIGNMENT.

I HAVEN'T
FORGOTTEN.

HE WON'T
ESCAPE.

HE'S
CURRENTLY
FOLLOWING
SPIDER-MAN--



"--INTO
MANHATTAN."

JOE?



PETER PARKER!
JUST THE SHUTTERBUG
I WAS LOOKING FOR!

DID YOU GET
THOSE PICTURES
I WANTED?

UM...
ABOUT
THAT...

JEEZ, WHAT'S WITH
JONAH? SOMEONE
GIVE HIM NEW
FLIES TO PULL
THE WINGS
OFF OF?

YOU
HAVEN'T
BEEN
AROUND
LATELY,
HAVE YOU?

JONAH'S BEEN...
AH.../INTERESTING...





SOON... THERE YOU ARE!
WASN'T SURE I
COULD MAKE IT--SO
MUCH GOING ON--

WELL... THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
TIME, DEAR.

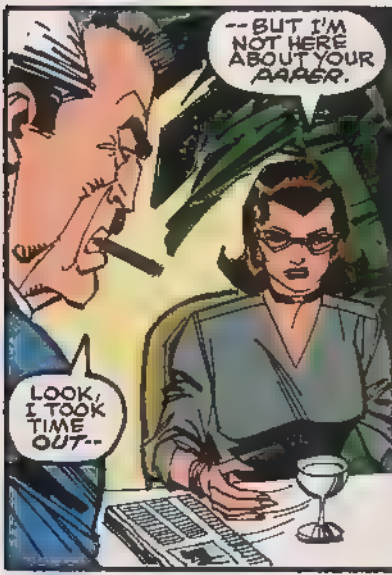
I'VE DONE
IT, MARLA!
I'VE DONE
IT!



THE NEW DAILY
BUGLE! FRONT TO
BACK JOURNALISTIC
EXCELLENCE!

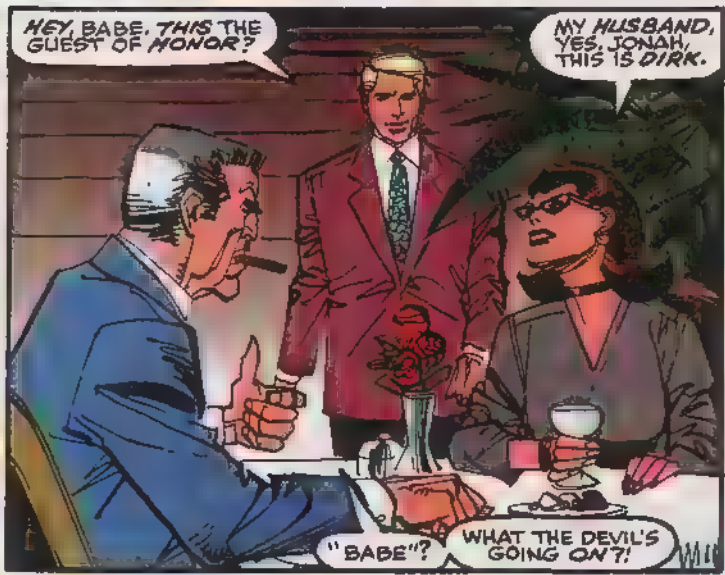
LET THEM
LAUGH AT
THIS!

I'M SURE IT READS
VERY WELL, DEAR--



-- BUT I'M
NOT HERE
ABOUT YOUR
PAPER.

LOOK,
I TOOK
TIME
OUT--

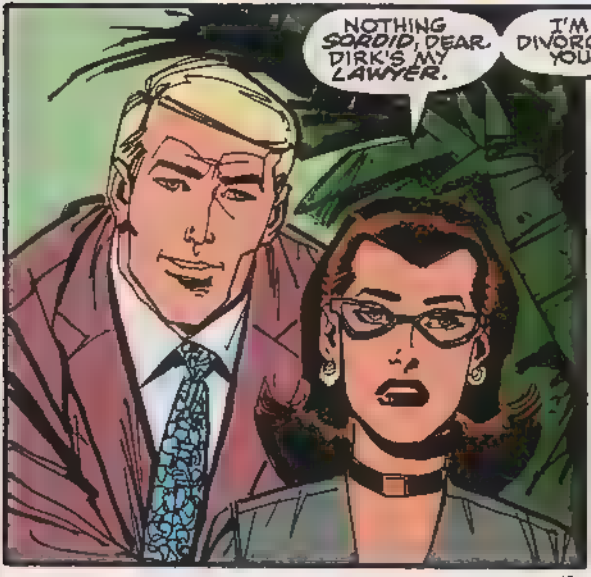


HEY BABE, THIS THE
GUEST OF HONOR?

MY HUSBAND,
YES, JONAH,
THIS IS DIRK.

"BABE"?

WHAT THE DEVIL'S
GOING ON?!



NOTHING
SORDID, DEAR.
DIRK'S MY
LAWYER.

I'M
DIVORCING
YOU.

HOW MUCH IS YOUR
SHARE OF THE DAILY
BUGLE WORTH,
ANYWAY?



...THE UPSHOT? JONAH'S TRYING TO MAKE THE BUGLE RESPECTABLE. I CAN SEE FIRM STANDARDS FOR HARD NEWS, BUT--



BUT WHAT YOU'RE TELLING ME IS-- NO MORE PICTURES OF SPIDER-M--

HOLY--

JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING, JOE. GOT TO RUN.



PETER?! WHERE ARE MY PHOTOS?!

CAN I HELP YOU WITH SOMETHING?

THAT'S MOST GRACIOUS, THANK YOU.



PLEASE TELL SPIDER-MAN, I'D LIKE TO SPEAK WITH HIM.

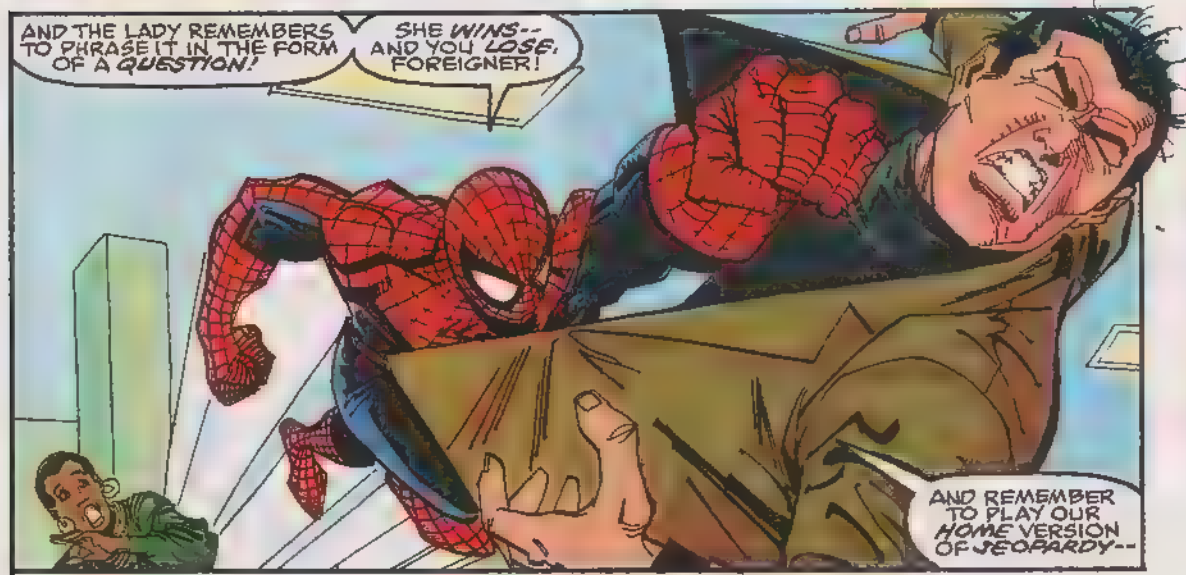
SPI--? THIS IS A--WHY WOULD--?

YOU'RE A SUPER-VILLAIN. AREN'T YOU?

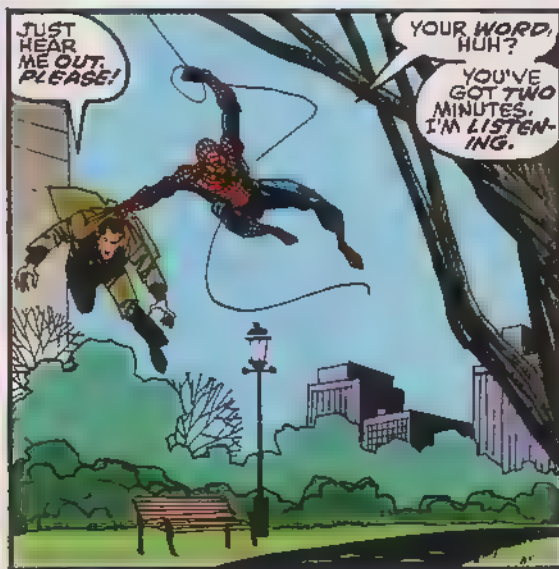
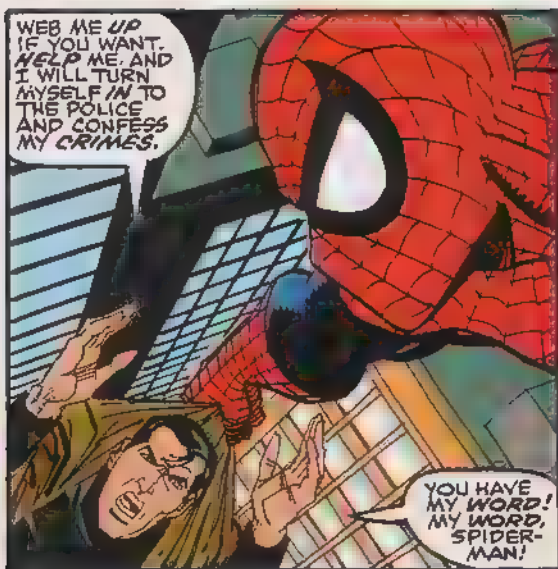
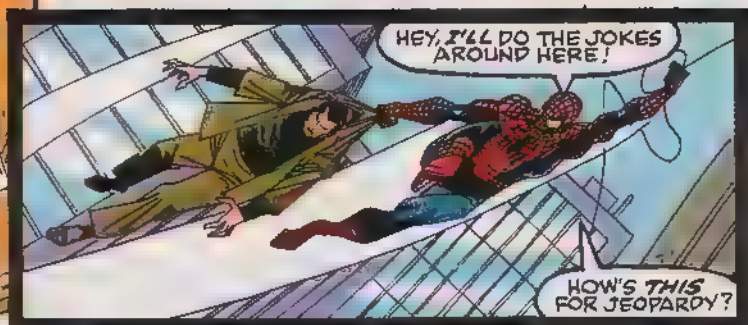


AND THE LADY REMEMBERS TO PHRASE IT IN THE FORM OF A QUESTION!

SHE WINS-- AND YOU LOSE, FOREIGNER!



AND REMEMBER TO PLAY OUR HOME VERSION OF JEOPARDY--





WELL?!

WHEN WE'VE TOUCHED DOWN, THANK YOU.



OH, YOU WANT THE SHORT VERSION. I'VE BEEN OUSTED FROM COMMAND OF MY ORGANIZATION, AND THEY'RE ALL OUT TO KILL ME.

AND HOW IS THIS BAD NEWS?

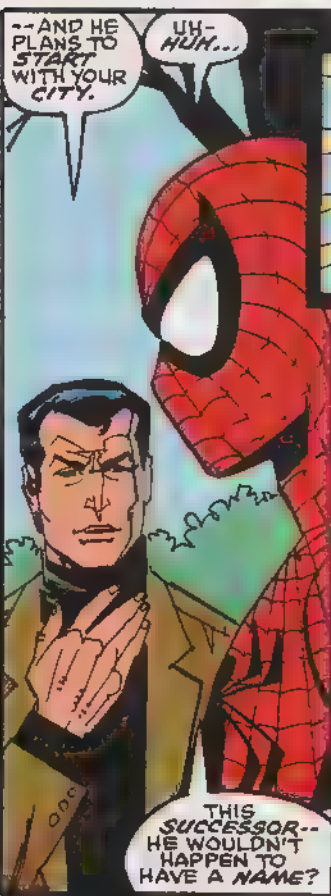


YOU HAVEN'T MET MY SUCCESSOR.

THINK WHAT YOU WILL OF ME, I HAVE RULES. SCRUPLES. I DEMANDED THE SAME OF MY OPERATIVES.



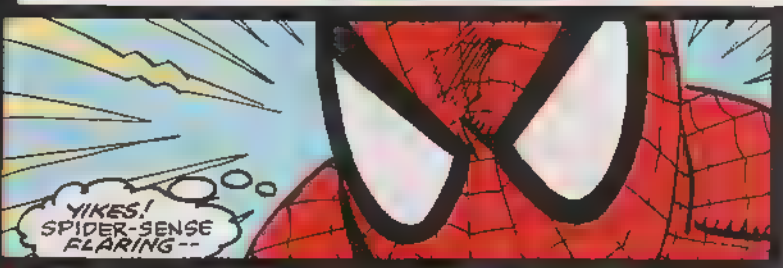
MY SUCCESSOR HAS NONE. HE SEES THE WORLD AS A BLACK PIT WAITING TO BE FILLED WITH BLOOD--



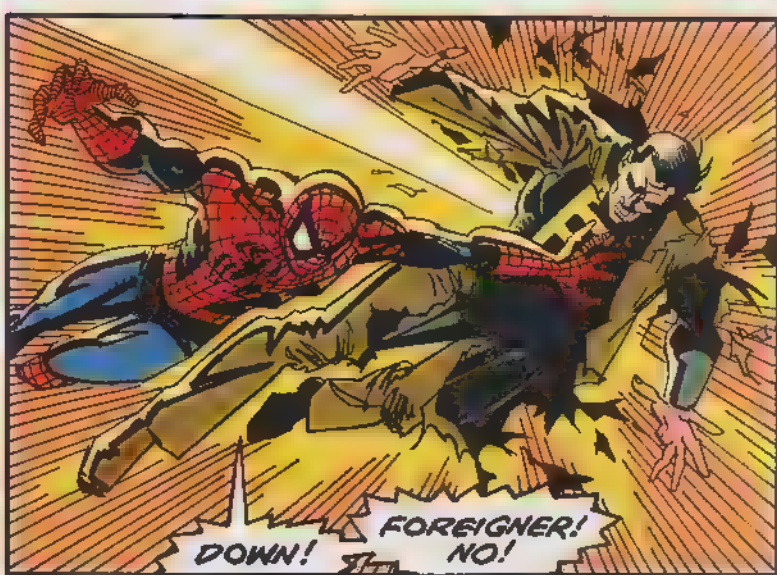
--AND HE PLANS TO START WITH YOUR CITY.

UH-HUH...

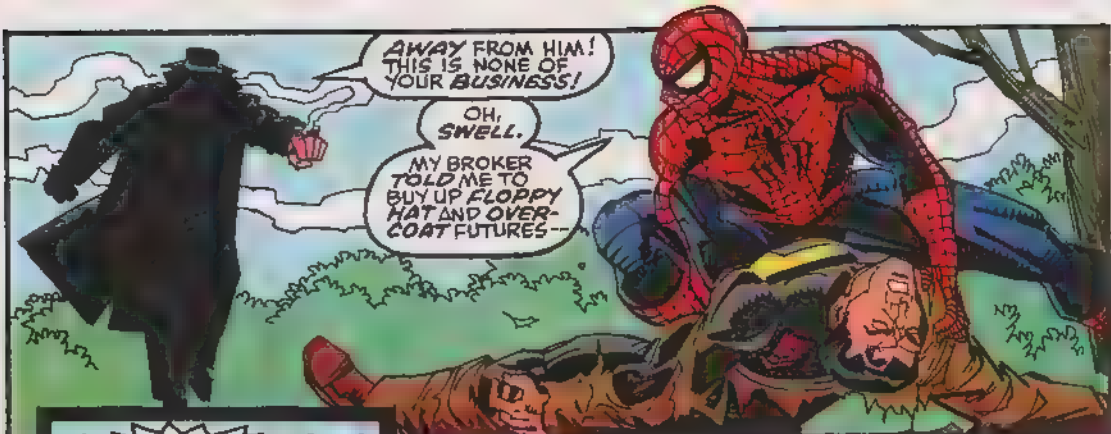
THIS SUCCESSOR-- HE WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO HAVE A NAME?



YIKES! SPIDER-SENSE FLARING--



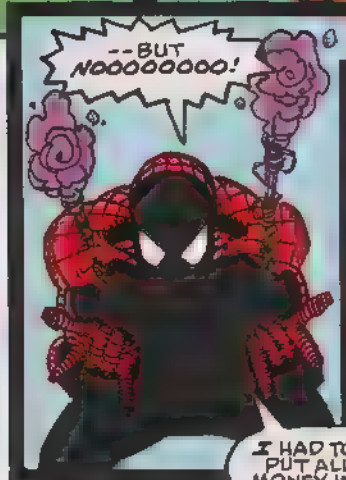
DOWN! FOREIGNER! NO!



AWAY FROM HIM!
THIS IS NONE OF
YOUR BUSINESS!

OH,
SWELL.

MY BROKER
TOLD ME TO
BUY UP FLOPPY
HAT AND OVER-
COAT FUTURES--



--BUT
NOOOOOOOO!



WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT? YOU'RE
MAD!

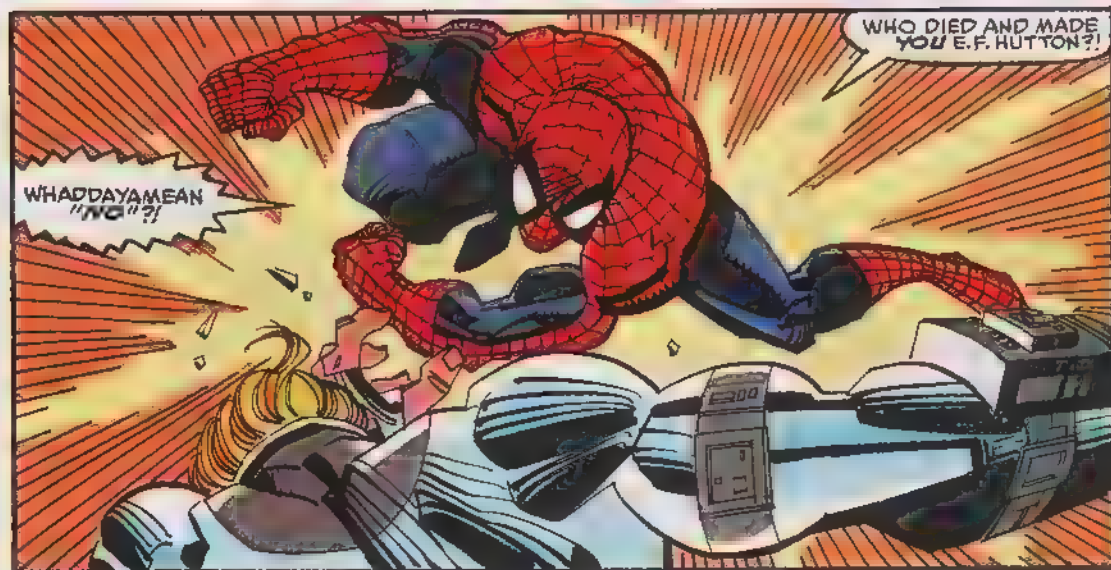
I HAD TO GO
PUT ALL MY
MONEY IN POGS!



SURE I'M MAD!
WOULDN'T
YOU BE?

NO!

I COULD'VE BEEN
RETIRED BY NOW!



WHO DIED AND MADE
YOU E.F. HUTTON?!

WHADDAYAMEAN
"NO"?!



ON THE OTHER
HAND, IF YOU REALLY
WANT THE JOB...

QUIET!
I WOULD
HAVE LET
YOU LIVE,
YOU SIMPER-
ING BOOR.

NOW YOU AND
THE FOREIGNER
WILL BOTH DIE--



--AT THE HANDS OF
DEADAIM!

UM...DID I MENTION
HE AND I DON'T ACTUALLY
KNOW EACH OTHER ALL
THAT WELL?

NEXT ISSUE:
**FALL
OUT!**

MANHATTAN.
CITY OF LIGHT.

SOME HERE
HAVE DANGER
THRUST
UPON THEM.

OTHERS
SEEK IT

SOME
LIVE
FOR IT.

CITY OF
DANGER.

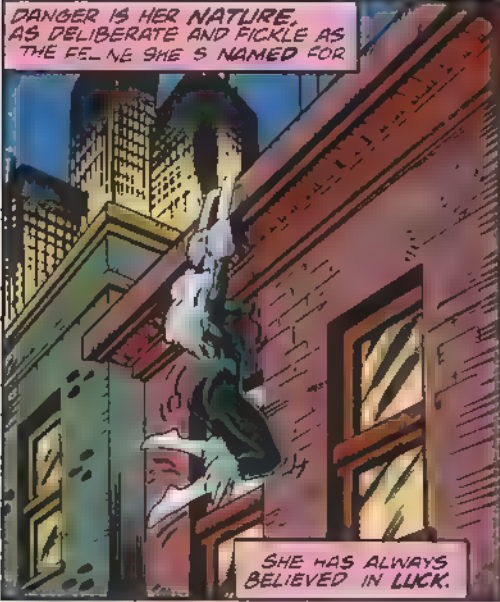
THEN THERE IS
THE BLACK CAT.

STAN LEE PRESENTS
THE **BLACK CAT**

IN
**FATEFUL
DISTRACTIONS**

STEVEN GRANT -- WRITER
NELSON ORTEGA -- PENCILER
HARRY CANDELARIO -- INKER
DAVE SHARPE -- LETTERER
CHIA-CHI WANG -- COLORIST
MARK POWERS -- EDITOR
DANNY FINGEROTH -- GR EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO -- EDITOR IN CHIEF

DANGER IS HER NATURE,
AS DELIBERATE AND FICKLE AS
THE FELINE SHE'S NAMED FOR



SHE HAS ALWAYS
BELIEVED IN LUCK.

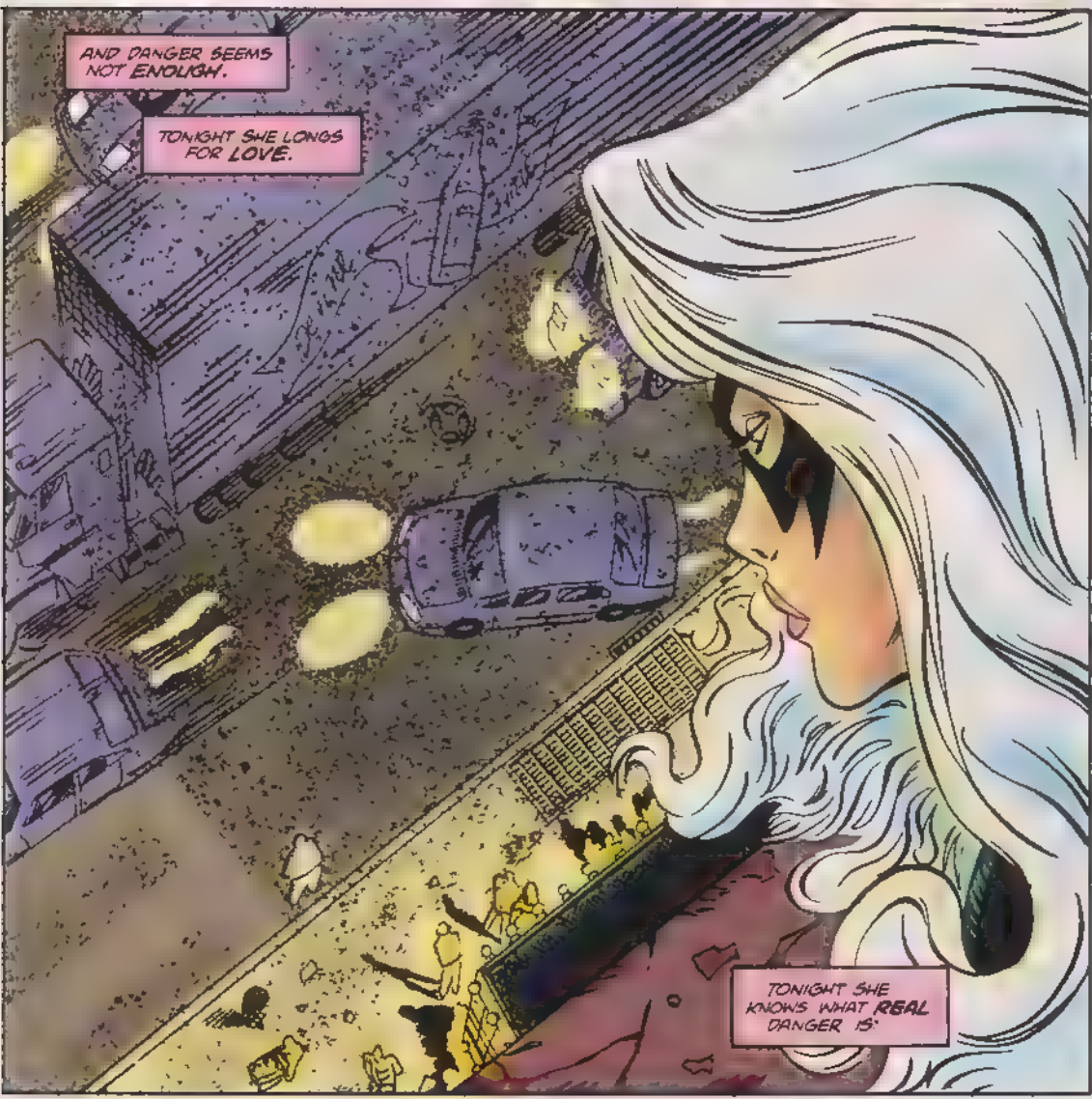
BUT NOT
TONIGHT



TONIGHT SHE
BELIEVES IN SKILL,
AGILITY AND
TRAINING.

AND DANGER SEEMS
NOT ENOUGH.

TONIGHT SHE LONGS
FOR LOVE.

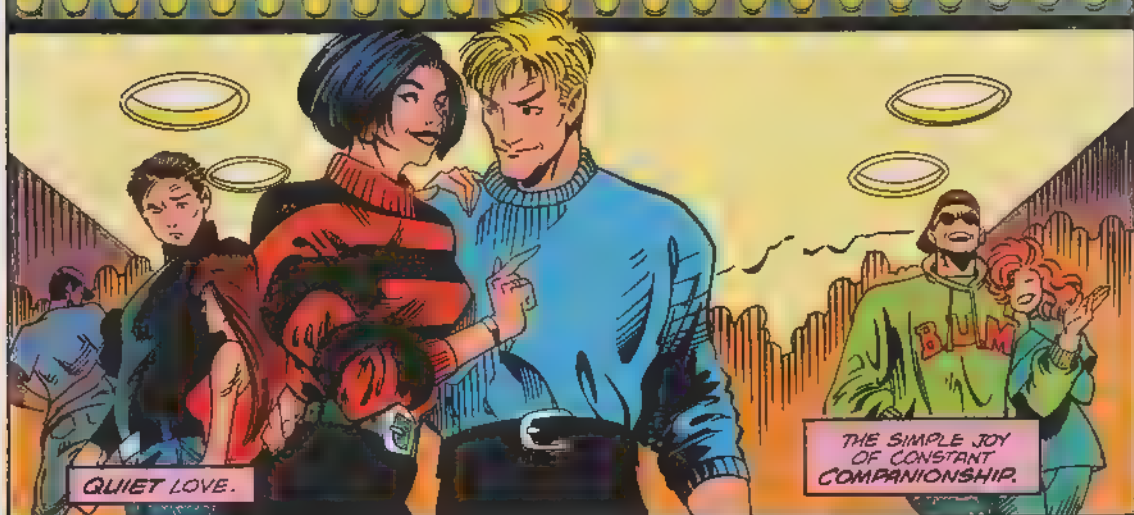


TONIGHT SHE
KNOWS WHAT REAL
DANGER IS.

TRUE LOVE

NOT THE OBSESSIVE GAME
SHE ONCE PLAYED WITH
SPIDER-MAN.

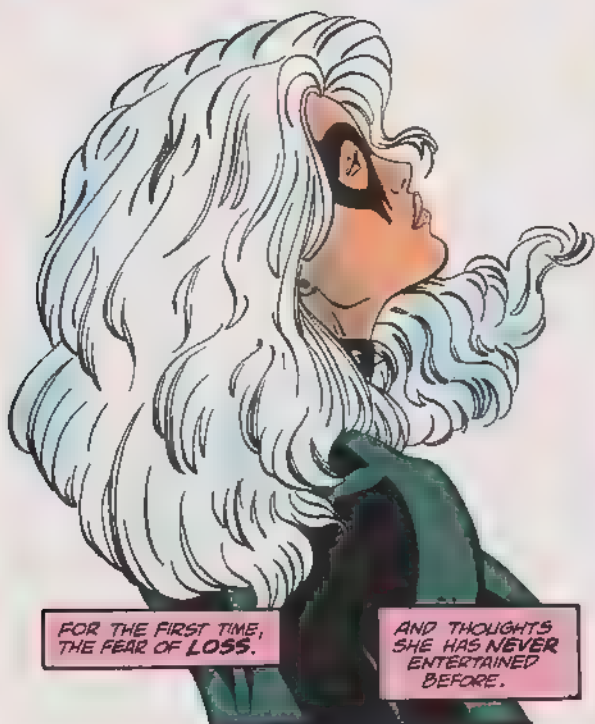
SA FEMME NIKITA



QUIET LOVE.

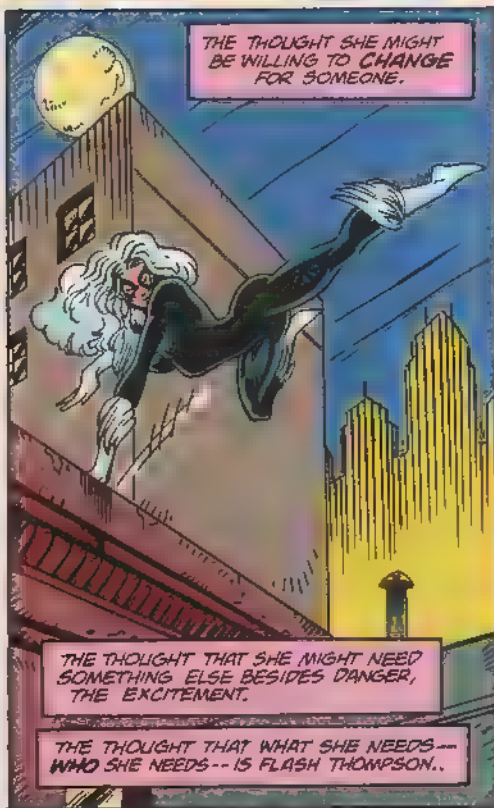
THE SIMPLE JOY
OF CONSTANT
COMPANIONSHIP.

AND FEAR.



FOR THE FIRST TIME,
THE FEAR OF LOSS.

AND THOUGHTS
SHE HAS NEVER
ENTERTAINED
BEFORE.



THE THOUGHT SHE MIGHT
BE WILLING TO CHANGE
FOR SOMEONE.

THE THOUGHT THAT SHE MIGHT NEED
SOMETHING ELSE BESIDES DANGER,
THE EXCITEMENT.

THE THOUGHT THAT WHAT SHE NEEDS--
WHO SHE NEEDS-- IS FLASH THOMPSON..

BULLPEN BULLETINS



RALF'S RETORTS

We've been hearing an awful lot over the past year or so about certain creators freeing themselves from the yoke of corporate confinement. Once unleashed from this oppressive, assembly line system, their imaginations would soar to unimagined heights, and we awestruck readers would be treated to an explosion of quality comics. Baloney! So far, these titans of the terminally tame have "treated" us to a dizzying array of pathetic Marvel rip-offs. This paucity of originality has disappointed me greatly. I enjoy good comics. And the last thing I want to settle down with is a third-generation knock-off of Wolverine who's part of a genetically-enhanced, government-sanctioned squad of similarly shallow creations.

But, that's what's out there. The good news is you, the ever-discriminating, can't-take-'em-for-granted reader, have been avoiding this mush as if it were the plague. Way to go. Despite the intense competition, Marvel (and recently, DC) titles are being purchased in increasing numbers by story-starved consumers. Meanwhile, the ultra-hip, way-cool, don't-expect-no-writin'-here comics are lining the retailers' shelves, like old wallpaper. The comics buying public had a dalliance with these plot-less wonders, and have returned safely (if a bit dazed) to the place where characterization and storytelling take their honored place alongside the visuals. Here.

But that isn't the end of the tale. The latest trend among the trendy is to create brand-new "consistent" universes, filled with dozens of cookie-cutter characters that actually can interact between titles! Wow! They don't interact for any particular reason, they just meet because it's part of the universe thing. Folks, the most successful fantasy world since Tolkien (the good ol' M.U.) didn't come out from whole cloth. It grew organically; a living entity — bit by bit — book by book — without being pre-packaged or pre-planned. The current crop of universe makers in our business remind me of the former communist countries trying to become capitalist overnight. It doesn't happen. It takes years of hard work, luck, and lots of love by the caretakers.

For me, it's been a kick to see the venerable old Marvel pantheon proudly standing its ground, while a legion of unworthy upstarts tries to emulate its intricate and wondrous interplay. And fails. We're in the publishing biz for the long haul, the marathon, the full twelve rounds. And a lot of people out there must be happy about that. I mean, if Marvel goes away, who are these bozos going to rip-off in their noble march to creative nirvana?

Ralph Macchio

Ralph Macchio
Make Mine Marvel — Forever

It's party time, Marveloids! No, we're not talking about Christmas or New Year's festivities ... at this writing, it's October, and we've just celebrated two different kinds of parties! First up to plate was our shindig celebrating the completion of another smash Marvel softball season! Photostat operator/team manager **Robbie Carosella** handed out the awards to Marvel's greatest softball heroes.

MVP of the year was Associate Editor **Mark (SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN) Powers**, whose softball sense was tingling all season! The Golden Glove award for Best Fielder went to Editor **Nel (IRON MAN) Yomtov**, who played like a Golden Avenger!

Paste-up guy **Joe Caponeccio** and typesetter **Dan Carr** tied for the Heavy Hitters Award, while **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN** cover painter **Vince Evans** was named Star of the Future. Rookie of the Year was **Nancy Paletti** of our Manufacturing Department. The award for comeback of the year went to Assistant Editor **Joe Andreani**, who was injured in a game against DC last year and was out of commission for most of last season.

Entertainment at the softball party was provided by the Marvel house band, led by **PUNISHER** editor **Don Daley**. Other band-members include **Romita Raiders DeLayne Hawkins** and **Scott Koblish**, promo writer **Jim Krueger**, **Nel "Golden Harp" Yomtov**, and book designer **Joe Kaufman**. A high point of the evening was Bullpenner **Steve Bunche's** unforgettable rendition of "Louie Louie."

Just a few days after the softball party came our infra-traditional Halloween party, which included people in crazy costumes competing in bizarre competitions — much like a typical episode of TV's "Let's Make a Deal!" The winners in our Hallo-lympics this year included **Kevin (Direct Sales) Tang** and **Ruth (Artwork Returns) DeJoya** in

THE BULL'S EYE by RICK PARKER



the Living Mummy Wrap and Colorist **Paul Becton** in the Black Bolt Scream Contest. Associate editor **Tim Tuohy** devoured the competition in the Donut Bite-off, and intern **Chris Fagan** won the Serpent Society Slither. Executive Vice President **Bob Lossey** took the Musical Chairs contest, buns down.

Other winners — in the Lean-to Contest: Assistant Editor **Spencer Lamm** and Editor **Rob (NOVA) Tokar**, in the Fishin' For Comics event, letterer **Ed Lazellari**, aided by Distribution Analyst **Joan Smolinski**; in Bobbing for Comics, Associate Editor **Mike Lackey**, (for the second straight year), and in the Comic Balancing category, **Marina Lum-Kang** from Licensing. (We should note here that no actual comics were injured during any of these events!)

Best costume awards went to Production Assistant **Stephanie Hallberg** as Roadkill, and former staffer **Chuck Kim** as the inimitable, Squirrel Girl! Runner-up was **SECRET DEFENDERS** inker **Don Hudson** as the Joker (who?). Don also took the award for stuffing an incredible 20 pieces of Dubble Bubble gum in his mouth!

In all, the '93 Halloween bash was a spookerific success. Nobody lost an eye, nobody hurled, and nobody died. Wait — maybe it wasn't a total success after all!

HYPELINE: ON SALE THIS WEEK

- **BARBIE FASHION #38:** It takes courage to go carolling!
- **BOOK OF THE DEAD #3 of 4:** Comic tales of Frankenstein and Men-Thing!
- **DAREDEVIL: MAN WITHOUT FEAR #5 of 5:** DD's origin concluded!
- **DEATHLOK #32:** Timestream wants to kill Captain America!
- **DR. STRANGE #92:** The mysterious "Strange" clashes with Doctor Doom!
- **FANTASTIC FOUR #366:** Sub-Mariner and Ant-Man guest-star in

- this Starblast crossover!
- **GHOST RIDER/BLAZE: SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE #19:** The return of Varnae, King of Vampires!
- **HELLSTORM #11:** A fallen angel wants to kill his father!
- **HOKUM & HEX #6:** Trip meets Bloodshed!
- **IRON MAN #301:** Someone's digging up Stark's secrets!
- **LAWDOG #10:** The final issue includes a trading card!
- **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT JANUARY 1994:** Free for all fans!
- **MOON KNIGHT #59:** Bloodline

- dies, but lives! (Huh?)!
- **NEW WARRIORS #44:** Namorita is back, with a shocking new look! Talk about your fish out of water!
- **PUNISHER 2099 #13:** The final chapter of Fall of the Hammer! Spider 2099 guest stars!
- **PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #63:** Frank's behind bars — but he's still the Punisher!
- **SILVER SURFER #88:** In search of Captain Marvel's son, Legacy!
- **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #206:** A ring of assassins targets the Foreigner!

- **SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED #4:** Spidey reveals his secret identity to the world!
- **WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEKWOULD #18:** The stunning conclusion of Teklords!
- **THOR #471:** The thrilling conclusion of Blood and Thunder!
- **VENOM: THE ENEMY WITHIN #1 OF 3:** Mixin' it up with Morbius!
- **X-FORCE #31:** X-Force tries to put Project Wideawake to sleep!
- **X-MEN CLASSIC #92:** The secrets of Rachel Summers revealed!



... AN ORDINARY MAN,
WITH LITTLE ADVENTURE
IN HIM.

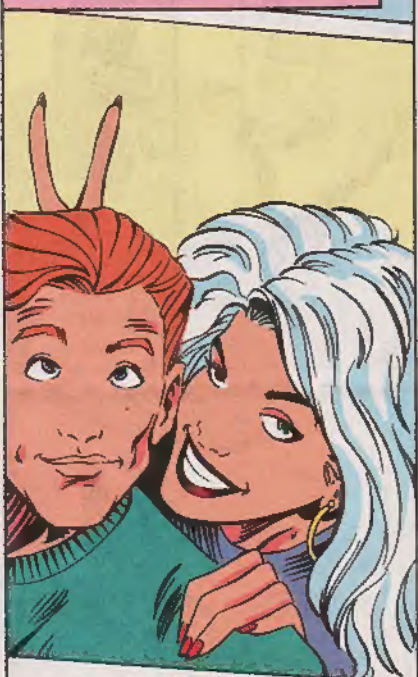
SHE HAS ALWAYS KEPT HER
DISTANCE FROM THE ORDINARY,
HATING THE PROSPECT
OF BEING ORDINARY.

WHY, SHE WONDER,
HAS GOTTEN
INTO HER ?



SUDDENLY THE BLACK
CAT BIT FEELS TIRED,
AND OLD.

AND FELICIA HARDY HAS SO MUCH
MORE LIFE AHEAD OF HER.



WITH
HIM.

A LIFETIME ALMOST
ENDED BEFORE IT
BEGAN--

--THE MAN SHE LOVES
BEATEN ALMOST TO
DEATH--



-- A BEATING SHE
FAILED TO AVENGE.

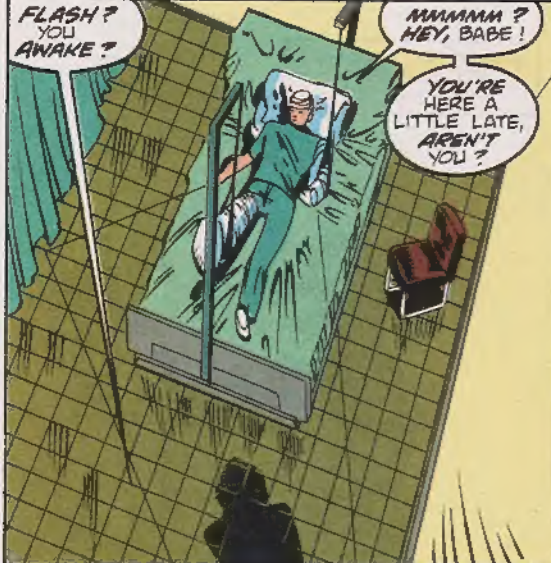
LEAVING HER
TO DECIDE:
IS A 'NORMAL'
MAN--A
VULNERABLE MAN--
WHAT SHE WANTS?

BUT SHE KNOWS NOW...

...FROM THE MOMENT
SHE MET HIM...



...HER DECISION
WAS ALREADY
MADE...



FLASH?
YOU
AWAKE?

MMMMMM?
HEY, BABE!

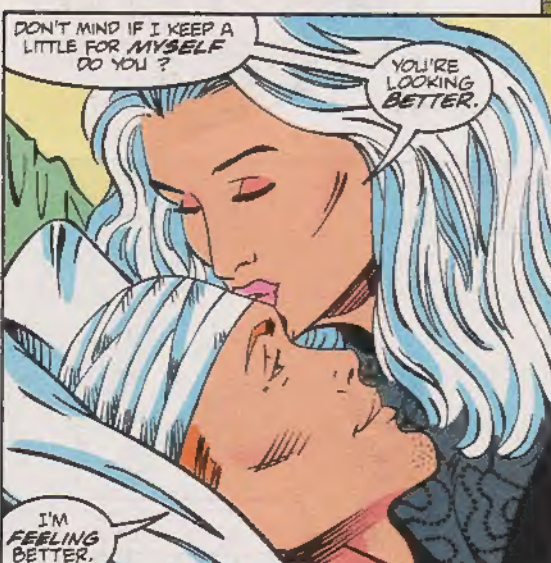
YOU'RE
HERE A
LITTLE LATE,
AREN'T
YOU?

I ADMIT
IT! I
SNUICK
IN!



JUST LET THEM
TRY TO KEEP ME
AWAY FROM YOU!

MAMA
MIA!
WHEN YOU SEE
YOUR DRESSMAKER,
GIVE HIM ALL
MY LOVE!



DON'T MIND IF I KEEP A
LITTLE FOR MYSELF
DO YOU?

YOU'RE
LOOKING
BETTER.

I'M
FEELING
BETTER.



DOC SAYS I CAN
GO HOME IN A
COUPLE OF
DAYS.

SOMETHING THE MATTER
FELICIA? YOU SEEM AWFULLY
NERVOUS.

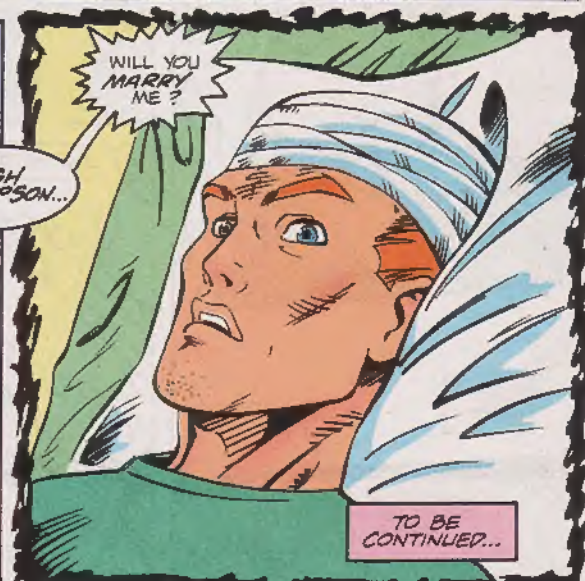
I'VE
BEEN,
UM...
...THINKING...



ABOUT
US.

I'VE GIVEN IT
A LOT OF
THOUGHT.

FLASH
THOMPSON...



WILL YOU
MARRY
ME?

TO BE
CONTINUED...

SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

© MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10015

MARK POWERS
EDITOR
DANNY FINGEROTH
GROUP EDITOR

Attention correspondents: All letters considered for publication must include your name and address, though we will withhold that information upon request.

Dear Web-Slingers,

I just read SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #204-205, and all I can say is, "Wow!" "Death by Tombstone" is the best series within a series since "Maximum Carnage." Tombstone himself is totally awesome. He's big, powerful, determined, deadly, not to mention he's kicking everybody's butt. What surprises me is that this seems to include the Black Cat and the Web-Slinger himself! It looks like trouble in any way you look at it, because Tombstone is seemingly unstoppable. Black Cat's relationship with Spider-Man may be on the verge of annihilation, and Flash Thompson just got beaten to a pulp. Go get him, Web-Slinger!

Jack Meischen
Austin, TX 78703

A fan from Texas! Surely then, you realize that Spider-Man is simply fulfilling the mythical role first established by the great Troy Aikman, rising from the ashes of defeat, to clinch victory not just for himself, but his friends and teammates around him. See the connection?

Dear Mark and Danny,

Re: SPECTACULAR #205:

Steven Grant has picked up right where J.M. left off. Sal Buscema is still one of the few pencilers who remembers what storytelling is. His graphics never cease to amaze me. Plus, he seems to be the only Spider-artist who is capable of drawing a drop-dead gorgeous Mary Jane. More of a focus on Mary Jane and Peter's private lives would keep the books more interesting. After all, we can't have the spider without the man, right?

Thanks for listening.

L.T.
(Address withheld by request)

Glad to see you have an interest in our hero's private life, L.T. If you keep reading (and we know you will) then you'll experience major, dare we say... upheaval in the lives of Peter and M.J. We can say no more!

Dear Mr. Powers,

I've been a long-time fan of SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN for as long as I can remember. In fact, I have every single issue of the book including the black and white magazines. When I heard that J.M. DeMatteis was leaving the book, I feared the worst. Fear not! Mr. Powers, you are clearly on the ball, doing a great job of keeping this book at the top of my list. Steven Grant's writing has been very solid, and really, there's a shortage of superlatives when it comes to praising Mr. Sal Buscema. Great stuff!

I heard the other day that Nightwatch is going to be getting his own ongoing series. Is this true, and when does the first issue come out? I can't wait!

Joe Richardson
Brooklyn, NY

Because you asked, there is a Nightwatch series coming out. However, it is a limited series by the incredible team of Terry (WEB) Kavanagh, Ron (SILVER SURFER) Lim, and Al (Everything-at-one-time-or-another) Milgrom! The first issue should be out in February, and if you folks ask for it, maybe Nightwatch will get his own series!

Dear Mark,

Oh, how the mighty have fallen. Steven Grant has done a great job of creating havoc not just for Spidey, but his colorful and intriguing array of supporting characters as well. It's really nice when they can step into the main story rather than being relegated to the background all the time. Between the four Spidey-titles, it seems that all the supporting characters we've come to love are getting a good workout, and I for one really appreciate that. Keep on going strong!

William Bradsy
(Address withheld by request)

If you think they've had a good workout so far, you ain't seen nothing yet! Keep reading, we think you'll be as surprised as you are thrilled by what lies ahead. Suffice it to say, nothing will ever be the same.

Dear Spectacular-People,

Issue #205 was, well, Spectacular! I loved the mechinations of Tombstone and his all-out battle with Spidey at the end. I know Peter will live, but I'm curious to see how he does it. The subplot with Liz was cool and unexpected, and watching Harry "in action" again make me realize how long it's been since he played an active role in Spidey's life instead of just Peter's.

I've been enjoying the back-up features in the various Spider-books. It's nice to focus in on different characters we don't know to well, or put a new spin on "old" characters like J.J.J. Good stuff!

Sidney Hatcher
P.O. Box 328
27 Palmaroy St.
Atlanta, GA 07115

Our stable of Spidey supporting characters is as large and varied as any at Marvel! We always enjoy seeing what makes them tick, and we're glad you seem to feel the same way.

From the Ranch:

Sorry for all the Cowboys references, but I can't resist! Seriously, I'd like to encourage everyone to write in and express their opinions—positive, negative, specific, or general topics. It truly does matter.

-Mark



NEXT ISSUE: All heck breaks loose, as Spidey reluctantly teams up with the Foreigner to fight all kinds of renegade assassins! Be there, or be square! Yeah, I said it!

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (REQUIRED BY 39 U.S.C. 3685)

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B. Paid and/or requested circulation: (1) Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales: Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 280,862 Actual no. of copies single issue nearest to filing date: 422,100 (2) Mail subscriptions: Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 6,233 Actual no. of copies single issue nearest to filing date: 4,820
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Signed: Diane Rivers—Business Manager